

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of April 24, 2006**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Donald Wallace, Selectmen Melvin Adams, Michael Demasi (absent), Kenneth Johnson, and Roger LeClair. Also present were Town Manager Nanci Allard, Clerk Samantha Baraw, Sally Davidson, Charlie Morse, Nina Hanson (Central Vermont Community Land Trust), and Bruce Gauge.

Chair Wallace called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **April 10, 2006 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Selectman Johnson, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

III. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

- a. **Warrant #21-06.** Motion by Selectman Johnson, seconded by Selectman Adams, to approve Warrant #21-06 in the amount of \$38,613.37. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

IV. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- a. **Nina Hanson, Central Vermont Community Land Trust.** Ms. Hanson is requesting Manager Allard's signature on a Grant Agreement and Sub-Grant Agreement; the Selectboard's signature is required on the Resolution that Northfield will be the lead town on this grant. The hope is that the paperwork will be signed tonight. The documents were read for the Board's approval. Motion by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to approve the Grant Agreement Resolution. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**
- b. **Sally Davidson, Northfield Skateboard Park.** Ms. Davidson is attending on behalf of the Skateboard Park and because of comments that were made at the last meeting. Ms. Davidson would like to know what the concerns are and what she would like to have done with them. Chair Wallace stated that he would like the items on the action plan taken care of. Ms. Davidson just received these documents tonight. The insurance company came to inspect the skateboard park only. She stated that VLCT had concerns about other items in the community. She would like to know why they are coming just to look at the park and not anything else. Why does it appear that the Skateboard Park is being singled out? Why did Roger LeClair inspect the Skateboard Park? Why does she have to answer to Bill Lyon? Ms. Davidson also stated that the Sons of the American Legion had agreed to maintain the Skateboard Park. Many people have agreed to donate time and materials to get the skateboard park back into service. Ms. Davidson would like to know why all other items are being maintained by the Town (i.e. pool, playground, dugouts, ball fields, etc.), but not the Skateboard Park. Chair Wallace stated that he left a message with Kurt Higley, American Legion commander. Selectman Adams stated that he is concerned about a piece that was put together by the users and was not part of the original design and may cause concern for insurance purposes. Chair Wallace stated that as long as the park is being maintained and the Town is not significantly increasing the liability, he will be satisfied. Ms. Davidson stated that a concern that Bill Lyon had was that the kids are skating without protective gear. She contacted Chief Shaw about this.

V. MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. **Parking Issues:** Parking is a concern for the community. Chief Shaw plans to have a recommendation for the next meeting regarding the parking ordinances. It is expected that this will be an area of continued discontent. There is a burden on Norwich University to work on this problem and not add to the burden on the community. Chair Wallace would like Norwich University to come in with a short-term solution by next fall. The Board would like to have Manager Allard draft a letter expressing the concerns and would like them to approach the Board with solutions. The letter also should be sent to President Schneider and request a short-term solution for this coming September.
- b. **Status Reports: Various Projects:**
 - a. **VTrans Safe Routes to School Program.** This report was completed in May 2005. The Board would like to go for a grant for this. The program would need coordination with the School Board.
 - b. **Alcohol Awareness Mock Automobile Accident Drill.** This demonstration was on the Norwich University campus last Friday afternoon (04/21/06) and was timed to coincide with Junior Weekend. Great job to the Northfield Ambulance Service, the Northfield Fire Department, and Norwich University for organizing this event!
 - c. **Green Up Day** – This event will be on Saturday, May 6, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, meeting first behind the Fire Station.

VI. SELECTBOARD

- a. **Status Reports: Various Projects.** The Board had nothing to add.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Non-agenda items

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Selectman LeClair, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to adjourn. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha H. Baraw

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

These minutes are subject to approval at the next scheduled meeting.